

Message Text

SECRET POSS DUPE

PAGE 01 RABAT 01280 051853Z

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ACTION IO-11

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

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R 051645Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7927

S E C R E T RABAT 1280

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR RQ MO

SUBJECT: MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS: PUERTO RICO

REF: (A) STATE 049329, (B) STATE 049330

1. AS REQUESTED REFTEL (A) PARA 10, FOLLOWING IS POST'S COMMENT. ALTHOUGH GOM HAS NOT FOCUSSED TO SIGNIFICANT DEGREE ON PUERTO RICO IN PAST, WE BELIEVE THAT A DIALOGUE BETWEEN EMBASSY AND APPROPRIATE LEVEL OF FOREIGN MINISTRY WILL ASSURE THAT OUR VIEWS ARE REGISTERED AT DECISION MAKING LEVELS HERE. WE WOULD EXPECT THESE VIEWS TO RECEIVE SYMPATHETIC CONSIDERATION. IN OUR OPINION, A RELATIVELY LOW-KEY APPROACH LIKELY TO BE MOST EFFECTIVE WITH GOM, IN LIGHT OF OUR POSITIVE BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP. A SPECIFIC PLUS WAS SUPPORT OF USG LAST YEAR FOR PRO-MOROCCAN UNGA RESOLUTION ON SAHARA, THE ISSUE OF GREATEST CONCERN TO MOROCCO AT PRESENT. RE REFTEL (B) PARA 4, EMBASSY LAST FALL MADE KNOWN SERIOUS USG CONCERN AND DISPLEASURE OVER LIMA NAC RESOLUTION (75 RABAT 4938).

2. WITH RESPECT TO LIKELY GOM REACTION TO INVITATION TO ITS UN OR WASHINGTON AMBASSADOR TO VISIT PUERTO RICO, WE DO NOT BELIEVE SUCH AN INVITATION WOULD HAVE APPRECIABLE BENEFICIAL EFFECT ON GOM'S POSITION. FURTHERMORE, IT IS POSSIBLE THAT GOM MIGHT HESITATE TO ACCEPT SUCH AN INVITATION, BOTH BECAUSE OF MORE PRESSING BUSINESS FROM MOROCCO'S POINT OF VIEW

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PAGE 02 RABAT 01280 051853Z

IN WASHINGTON AND NEW YORK AND GENERAL RELUCTANCE TO GET OUT IN FRONT OF OTHER THIRD WORLD STATES ON SUCH ISSUES. (SEE ALSO

RABAT 1153, WHICH DETAILED MOROCCAN ATTITUDES AND AIMS IN INTERNATIONAL BODIES.)

3. WE PLANNING INITIATE DIALOGUE ON PUERTO RIXO AT APPROPRIATE LEVEL OF FOREIGN MINISTRY AT EARLY OPPORTUNITY IN ACCORDANCE WITH REFTTEL (B). FOR THIS PURPOSE, WE BELIEVE SPECIFIC ARGUMENTS CONTAINED PARA 6 REFTTEL (A), ALONG WITH PREVIOUS INSTRUCTIONS, SHOULD PROVIDE SUFFICIENT BASIS FOR LAUNCHING OF THE DIALOGUE.

NEUMANN

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